

Amendment to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, between lines 3 and 4, please insert the following paragraph:

This application claims priority to PCT/EP03/10092, filed September 9, 2003 and to PCT/EP02/11062, filed September 27, 2002, the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Pages 10-11, please replace the paragraph at page 10, line 10 to page 11, line 15, with the following paragraph:

It is accordingly, an object of the present invention to provide a sandwich assay wherein the first antibody coated to a solid matrix, hereinafter referred to as the coating antibody, consists of an antibody that recognizes the Ab11-x peptides and full length Ab40 or Ab42 and the second antibody, which is made detectable, specifically recognizes the Ab11-x peptides. Preferably, the coating antibody recognizes the human Ab11-x peptides and full length human Ab40 or Ab42, in a more preferred embodiment the coating antibody consists of the monoclonal antibody JRF/cAb40/10 that specifically recognizes Ab11-40 and full length Ab40, said monoclonal antibody being characterised by comprising at least one heavy chain variable region heaving the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No:5 and /or at least one light chain variable region having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No:6 (hereinafter referred to as the monoclonal antibody JRF/cAb40/10) or alternatively, the coating antibody consists of the monoclonal antibody JRF/cAb42/12 that specifically recognizes Ab11-42 and full length Ab42, said monoclonal antibody being characterised by comprising at least one heavy chain variable region heaving the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No:7 and /or at least one light chain variable region having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No:8 (hereinafter referred to as the monoclonal antibody JRF/cAb42/12). Accordingly in a preferred embodiment the second antibody is one of the monoclonal antibodies expressed by the hybridoma cells J&JPRD/hAb11/1 or J&JPRD/hAb11/2 deposited at the ~~Belgian coordinated collection of microorganisms~~ Belgian Coordinated Collections of Microorganisms (BCCM), Prime Minister's Services, Federal Office for Scientific, Technical and Cultural Affairs (OSTC), Rue de la Science 8, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium on August 19, 2002 with ~~accessionnumbers~~ accession numbers LMBP 5896CB and LMBP 5897CB respectively. It is also an object of the invention to provide a sandwich assay to determine the ratio of Ab11-x peptides to full length Ab40 or Ab42. In this embodiment an additional second antibody that recognizes both full length Ab40 and Ab42, but which shows no cross reactivity for Ab11-x peptides is used as well. Preferably this additional second antibody consists of JRF/AbN25 characterised by comprising at least one heavy chain variable region heaving the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No: 9 and /or at least one light chain variable region having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No: 10. It is accordingly an object of the present invention to provide a sandwich assay wherein the coating antibody consists of an antibody that specifically recognizes the Ab11-x peptides, but which shows no cross reactivity for the full length Ab40 and Ab42 peptides, such as for example the monoclonal antibodies expressed by the hybridoma cells J&JPRD/hAb11/1 or J&JPRD/hAb11/2 deposited at the Belgian coordinated collection of microorganisms on August 19, 2002 with accessionnumbers

LMBP 5896CB and LMBP 5897CB respectively, in combination with a second antibody that specifically recognized Ab11-40 or Ab11-42, such as for example JRF/cAb42/12 or JRF/cAb40/10 as characterized hereinbefore. In a specific embodiment the coating antibody consists of J&JPRD/hAb11/1 and the second antibody consists of JRF/cAb42/26 that specifically recognizes Ab11-42 and full length Ab42, said monoclonal antibody being characterised by comprising at least one heavy chain variable region having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No:11 and /or at least one light chain variable region having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No:12 (hereinafter referred to as the monoclonal antibody JRF/cAb42/26).